

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00
SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 OIC-02 /096 W
-----036188 191010Z /11/66

R 180840Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8030
DOE GERMANTOWN MD
DOE WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 TOKYO 08944

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (LINE 3 PARA 9 ADDED)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, JA
SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS INFCE WORKING GROUPS 4A AND 4B

STATE FOR BORIGHT (OES)

ACDA FOR ROCKLIN

DOE FOR CUNNINGHAM, CIAMBUSSO

INFCE WORKING GROUP 4A:

A. INFCE WORKING GROUP 4A HELD ITS SESSIONS MAY 15-16, 1978 AT THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TOKYO. THE SESSIONS WENT GENERALLY
QUITE WELL. THE PACE WAS A BIT SLOW; ONLY THE FIRST 8 OUT OF 14
AGENDA ITEMS WERE COVERED IN SUBGROUP 4A. HOWEVER, THE TONE OF
THE MEETING WAS FRIENDLY AND OPEN RESULTING IN CONSIDERABLE DIS-
CUSSION AND WIDE PARTICIPATION. THE CHAIR WAS CORDIAL AND OPEN-
MINDED AND SOUGHT TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE PARTICIPANTS.
A NUMBER OF PAPERS WERE TABLED AND DISCUSSED. SIGNIFICANT HEADWAY
HAS BEEN MADE TOWARD A REFERENCE CASE REPROCESSING PLANT ALTHOUGH MOR
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DETAIL IS NEEDED, SEVERAL OMITTED FEATURES NEED TO BE ADDED, AND GHE
FRG AND JAPANESE POINTS OF VIEW NEED TO RBE RECONCILED.

B. U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS TO TASK FIVE WERE TABLED AND BRIEFLY DISCUSSED
AS NOTED BELOW. NO DISCUSSION WAS HELD OF THE IAEA REGIONAL FUEL
CYCLE CENTER STUDY TABLED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING. THE NEXT MEETING

OF WORKING GROUP 4A IS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 18-19, 1978 IN VIENNA, IN CONJUNCTION WITH CORRESPONDING SESSIONS OF 4B LATER THAT WEEK. MORE DETAILED COMMENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. THE DISTRIBUTION OF INFCE WG 4 DOCUMENTS TO DELEGATIONS ON A TIMELY BASIS CONTINUES TO BE A PROBLEM. SEVERAL DELIGATIONS INCLUDIN G

THE US DELEGATION HAD NOT RECEIVED PAPERS MAILED BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT FOR USE AT THIS MEETING.

2. UNDER TASKS 1 AND 2, THE SECRETARIAT CONTINUES TO UPDATS DOCUMENTS ON RESPONSES TO THEQUESTIONNAIRES WHEN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE DELEGATES. THESE TASKS SHOULD BE COMPLETED AT THE NEXT MEETING IN SEPTEMBER.

3. UNDER TASK 1 THE NLW NEA DOCUMENT (THE YELLOW REPORT OF ARCH 1978) UPDATES PREVIOUS NEA FORECASTS IN A DIRECTION THAT SUPPORTS THE US POSITION, I.E., THE NEW FORECASTS INDICATE LOWER NUCLEAR ENERGY DEMAND. THIS IS SUMMARIZED IN THE NEW SUBGROUP 4A DOCUMENT INFCE/WG 4/12(A). THERE IS NO CONSISTANCY YETWITH RESOURCE AND REQUIREMENT PROJECIONS FROM WG 1.

4. UNDER TASK 2, NATIONAL PLANS FOR REPROCESSINN, THE REVISED PAPER INFCE/WG 4/19(A) WAS TABLED. EXCEPT FOR MINOR REVISIONS TO BE NADE TO THIS DOCUMEN1, TASK 2 IS COMPLETED.

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5. UNDER TASK K, BASE CASE REPROCESSING PLANT, A REVISION OF THE FRG PAPER WAS TABLED AS CO-CHAIRMEN/WG 4/7(A). GENERAL CONSENSUS WAS THAT IT IS A GOOD START ON THIS TASK. JAPANESE ALSO TABLED A VERY GOOD PAPER ON A 1200 T/YR BASE CASE REPROCESSING PLANT. THERE WAS EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION ON PLANT MAINTENANCE EXPERIENCE AND ON BASE CASE REPROCESSING UNIT COSTS. INDIA AND PAKISTAN POINTED OUT THAT THEY NEEDED TO BE RECOGNIZED AS BEING IN A DIFFERENT ECONOMIC ENVIRON

-
MENT THAN BASE CASES, AND THAT SMALL REPROCESSING PLANTS MAY BE ACCEPTABLE UNDER SPECIAL CONDITIONS. ALSO CEC TABLED A STUDY OF A REGIONAL FUEL CENTER.

6. THERE IS CONCERN AMONG SOME DELEGATIONS FAVORING THE NUCLEAR FUEL PROCESSING REGARDING THE DEGREE OF DETAIL TO BE DISCUSSED IN INFCE WG 4. THE FRENCH DELEGATION SEEMS TO BE ESPECIALLY CONCERNED IN THIS AREA.

7. THE REVISED DOCUMENT INFCE/WG 4/17(A,B) REV. 1 UNDER WASK 4 WAS RENUMBERED AS CO-CHAIRMAN/WG 4/17(A, B) A1 THE REQUEST OF THE SWISS, AUSTRALIAN, AND US DELEGATIONS. THIS REVISION AND THE ACCOMPANYING DISCUSSION ON THE FLOOR CORRECIED MOST OF THE PROBLEMS RAISED BY THE US COMMENTS THAWERE SENT TO THE SECRETARIAT FOLLOWING THE

VIENNA MEETING ON MARCH 30, 1978.

8. THE US DELEGATION TABLED TWO PAPERS UNDER TASK 5, ONF ON ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT FACTORS (CO-CHAIR/WG 4/24(A) ADD.1) AND ONE ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FACTORS (CO-CHAIR/WG 4/25A ADD. 1). THE PAPERS WERE GENERALLY WELL RECEIVED ALTHOUGH DISCUSSION WAS SCHEDULED FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

9. THE RFCC STUDY OF THE IAEA HAD BEEN TABLED AT THE LAST MEETING WITH THE INTENT OF DISCUSSING IT AT THIS MEETING. HOWEVER NONE OF THE IAEA SPECIALISTS CONCERNED WITH THE STUDY APPEARED AT THE MEETING , AND NO DISCUSSION WAS HELD.

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INFCE WORKING GROUP 4B:

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00
SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 OIC-02 /096 W
-----026125 190252Z /66

R 180840Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8031
DOE GERMANTOWN MD
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 TOKYO 08944

STATE FOR BORIGHT (OES)

ACDA FOR ROCKLIN

DOE FOR CUNNINGHAM, GIAMBUSSO

WORKING GROUP 4B SESSION FOLLOWED THE 4A SESSION AT THE MINISTRY OF

FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TOKYO. THE MEETINGS WENT VERY WELL WITH FRIENDLY, PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AMONG THE VARIOUS DELEGATIONS. ONLY ONE DAY WAS REQUIRED TO FINISH THE SCHEDULED TASKS.

1. FOLLOWING OPENING REMARKS BY CO-CHAIRMAN, DR. TAMIYA, PAPERS ON PLUTONIUM STORAGE WERE PRESENTED. FRANCE EABLFD A PAPER ON THE PRINCIPLES OF LONG-TERM STORAGE, AND GERMANY (FRG) PROVIDED A PAPER ON A SHORT-TERM STORAGE FACILITY. NEITHER OF THESE TWO PAPERS PROVIDED SUFFICIENT DETAILS TO ALLOW OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF SUCH FACILITIES.

FRANCE WAS RELUCTANT TO PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN THE FORM OF A PREFERENCE FACILITY. WG 4B ALSO STILL LACKS A PAPER DEFINING A BASE CASE PU CONVERSION FACILITY. OVERALL WORK ON THIS TASK IS VERY THIN.

2. CEC PRESENTED A SHORT OUTLINE OF A STUDY ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
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OF PLUTONIUM TRANSPORTATION WITHIN EUROPE. THE UK WAS NOT ABLE TO SUBMIT THEIR PAPER ON TRANSPORTATION. THIS TASK, PU TRANSPORTATION, IS BADLY BEHIND SCHEDULE.

3. THE PRESENTATION OF THE IAEA PAPER ON INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT OF PLUTONIUM WAS POSTPONED UNTIL THE NEXT WG 4B MEETING TO BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER.

4. JAPAN TABLED ITS UPDATED PAPER ON A DEFINITION REACTOR. BELGIUM ALSO PRESENTED ITS UPDATED PAPER OF MOX FUEL FABRICATION FACILITY. BOTH PAPERS WERE QUITE GOOD AND WELL RECEIVED.

5. ON TASK 8, AN EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON A SURVEY PAPER ON FUEL CYCLE COSTS PAPER PREPARED BY TECHNICAL SECRETARIATHWWXWRNN THE IMPORTANT QUESTION YET TO BE ANSWERED IS HOW IS THE NET ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT OF A LWR FUEL CYCLE TO BE PERFORMED IN LIGHT OF THE WIDELY VARYING COSTS PRESENTED IN THE LITERATURE. THE U.S. DELEGATION

WILL WORK WITH THE SECRETARIAT TO HELP RESOLVE THIS MATTER.

6. THE NEXT WG 4 MEETINGS ARE TO BE HELD IN VIENNA DURING THE WEEK OF SEPT. 18, 1978 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE WG 4A SESSIONS.
MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEE MEETINGS, STUDIES, NUCLEAR FUELS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO08944
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780229-1000, D780210-0566
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780542/aaaabjvk.tel
Line Count: 215
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 565a8c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2645333
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISCUSSIONS INFCE WORKING GROUPS 4A AND 4B STATE FOR BORIGHT (OES) ACDA FOR ROCKLIN
TAGS: TECH, JA, INFCE
To: STATE OE MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/565a8c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014